

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/551,342

Examiner

BRIAN M. HEALY

Applicant(s)

OHASHI ET AL.

Art Unit

2883

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the application filed 06/05/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 12-21.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 20050928
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.


BRIAN HEALY
PRIMARY PATENT EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION***Allowable Subject Matter***

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the closest reference of record, i.e. Weindorf, U.S.P. No. 6,762,741 teaches (Figs.1-3) a liquid crystal display with automatic brightness control comprising: a backlight display 100,102 with a bezel 106 and a sensor device 114 that is used in conjunction with a control circuit 108 and user interface 112 to provide automatic luminance adjustments by comparing sensed conditions to luminance values in a look-up table or otherwise stored luminance values so that brightness control can be achieved for a variety of ambient conditions. Neither Weindorf 741' or any of the other references of record teaches or suggests the claimed moving photometric device having a shape which covers a part of a front surface of a liquid crystal display device and does not cover a front surface of a liquid crystal display screen other than during photometry comprising: a liquid crystal display portion; a bezel surrounding all four sides of the liquid crystal display; a shaft portion provided at a corner portion of the bezel; a moving portion whose end portion is connected to the shaft portion and rotatably attached with a focus on the shaft portion to be placed in the bezel; a sensor portion provided in the display portion at the other end portion of the moving portion; a CPU to which a detection signal from the sensor portion is supplied, a look-up table in which the detection signal is normalized with a predetermined maximum intensity for the liquid crystal display which results in changes in the transmission state of the liquid crystal display and a change in the backlight drive circuit which regulates proper luminance quantity. These limitations are recited in claim

Art Unit: 2883

12. Dependent claims 13-21 includes the limitations of claim 12 along with other additional limitations (See the dependent claims for these additional limitations.).

2. Applicant has canceled claims 1-11.

3. A copy of PTO-1449 will be included in this office action.

4. The following references are also cited by the Examiner as being pertinent prior art: Kulik et. al., U.S.P. No. 6,107,998 (Figs.1-9), Aoki et. al., U.S.P. No. 4,760,389 (Figs.1-3), Myrick et. al., U.S.P. No. 6,198,531 (Figs.1-9) and Tanaka et. al., U.S.P. No. 6,081,254 (Figs.1-30).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to BRIAN M. HEALY whose telephone number is (571)272-2347. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 6AM-5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Frank Font can be reached on (571)272-2415. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2883

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

BRIAN M. HEALY

PRIMARY EXAMINER

ART UNIT: 2883

PHONE: (571)272-2347

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Brian Healy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

BRIAN HEALY
PRIMARY PATENT EXAMINER